

SIKA-EAST WEEKLY PROGRAM UPDATE

No. 45

In preparation for the Service Provider Fair (SPF), SIKA-East finalized the list of participants and drafted the invitation letters and agenda for the inauguration ceremony. PRRD is supporting SIKA-East in coordinating the event with government officials; finalizing the agenda; managing the event; and collecting service provider logos. Additionally, the team modified the Request for Quotations (RFQ) for the logistic requirements of the event. The bid winner will be announced after the Eid holidays. The event will take place on October 12 and 13, 2012 in the Maydan Shahr municipality hall.

SIKA-East worked on finalizing and compressing the roll-out plan in the newly approved SIKA-East districts (Nerkh, Mohammad Agha and Deh Yak). This improved roll-out gives SIKA-East the chance to provide important training for district staff during the initial roll-out in order to be able to roll-out in later districts simultaneously.

Women sessions were held in the pilot districts so SIKA-East discussed the involvement of women in the new SIKA-East districts. The improved methodology is to conduct a five-day session in each district for women. This five-day session will include two days of governance and three days of stability analysis. Understanding the perspective of women will help SIKA-East accurately complete a comprehensive District Project Portfolio (DPP) in the new SIKA-East districts.

SIKA-East continued to collect data and enrich the district profiles for the Mohammad Agha, Zurmat, Andar and Saydabad Districts. The uprising and resiliencies analysis was also completed for Logar, Ghazni and Paktya Provinces producing a one-page report for internal distribution.

SIKA-East conducted introductory meetings with influential people in Zadran and Khost and identified some stakeholders in the field.

SIKA-East reviewed the training evaluation results of a session on strengthening the governance foundation. Furthermore, a curriculum for Infrastructure Project Planning (IPP) training was developed. The IPP training was conducted in Saydabad.

SIKA-East held a workshop focusing on case studies across various in-kind grant types. The workshop included Request for Applications (RFA), Request for Proposals (RFP), etc. as well as testing and processing the forms in each step of the cycle. The workshop was guided and supported by the Short Term Technical Assistant (STTA) Grants and Contracts Specialist from the IRD home office. In addition, the STTA conducted full-day training on reviewing DPPs, bundling each activity into the project and marking them into their respective codes. This exercise assisted staff to understand how many types of grants are in a DPP and what mechanism should be issued for the various kinds of grants.

The Capacity Building and Gender Unit (CBGU) developed several training outlines to cover National Solidarity Program (NSP) standard designs and estimating NSP bills of quantity for the Engineering Support Group (ESG).

After many approval issues, Focus Group (FG) implementation started in the Andar District. RSI are presently conducting FG in all nine bas period districts. 47 FG have been completed in total.

A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Training Attendance Registers (TAR) has been developed and MELU will use the module for the next SIKA Induction College.

The Security Unit conducted training for the Afghan Public Protection Force (APPF) guard force. Furthermore, training was conducted for the Security and Operations Officers for Mohammad Agha and Nerkh Districts.

The Human Resource (HR) Unit filled one position for AECOM and two positions for International Relief and Development (IRD) during the week.

FIELD ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Ghazni:

- The Ghazni Provincial Management Unit (PMU) Manager conducted the regular weekly coordination meeting with the Provincial Rural Rehabilitation and Development (PRRD) Director. The manager updated the PRRD Director on SIKA-East achievements and plans and coordinated the expected program roll-out in the Deh Yak District.

Logar:

- Logar engineers traveled to Wardak to conduct a two-day infrastructure planning introduction session for Wardak DDA members.
- The Logar PMU Manager met with the Department of Women Affairs (DoWA) Director and Baraki Barak DDA women on October 22, 2012. The purpose of the meeting was to present and seek confirmation for the list of Baraki Barak influential women.
- The Logar PMU Manager met with Mohammad Agha's Cultural and Youth Affairs head. The purpose of the meeting was to prepare a list of active youth across the district.

Paktya:

- The Paktya PMU Deputy Manager attended the PRRD regular weekly meeting. To enrich the SPC, he met the Department of Refugees and Returnees (DoRR) head and obtained essential information about the status of ongoing and planned projects in the Zurmat and Zadran Districts.
- The Zurmat team met with the Zurmat District Health Officer and DDA members to get information on the current situation in Zurmat. The Zadran PMU Manager also met with the DDA head.

Wardak:

- The Wardak PMU Manager attended the PRRD regular weekly meeting.
- A two-day infrastructure project planning session was conducted for six clusters of Saydabad District. The participants included four members of each *hawza* and PRRD social workers.
- The Nerkh DSU had a coordination meeting with the District Governor (DG). The DG promised full support for SIKA-East implementation.

NEXT WEEK KEY ACTIVITIES PROJECTION

- Follow up on SPF preparation and coordination with government entities;
- Finalize Mohammad Agha, Andar, Zurmat and Saydabad District profiles;
- Analyze Saydabad DPP;
- Prepare training for the Grants Review Committee (GRC) members and district entities;
- Draft various training outlines, e.g. estimating the NSP Bill of Quantities (BoQ), field measurement, water management;
- Conduct a Security Risk Assessment (SRA) of staff accommodation in Ghazni Province;

- HR Department will continue recruitment of 58 staff:
 - 33 vacancies in process with AECOM;
 - Eight vacancies in process with OSC; and
 - Seventeen vacancies in process with IRD.

NEXT WEEK PROJECTED FIELD ACTIVITIES

Ghazni:

- Prepare for the program roll-out in Deh Yak District; and
- Arrange a meeting with the Ghazni PRRD Director.

Logar:

- Conduct a coordination meeting with the PRRD; and
- Conduct a meeting between the PMU and the Logar Governor.

Paktya:

- Conduct a coordination meeting with the PRRD and other stakeholders; and
- Conduct a coordination meeting with the different NGOs.

Wardak:

- Prepare for the SPF;
- Coordinate and facilitate the Nerkh District roll-out;
- Participate in regular coordination meetings with government officials; and